

### About Plays and Players

By BIDE DUDLEY

**G**EOFFREY TALLIS, senior managing director of J. C. Williamson, Limited, of Australia, who is in New York, is finding an appalling dearth of good plays, according to his way of thinking.

"Australia has to look to New York and London for its plays," he said, "and we always get the cream from each city. I am here to get some now, but, while I have seen numerous Broadway productions, only three or four will do for Australia. Our people are used to the best and the other kinds won't go at home. We have no successful playwrights to speak of in our country. I am to remain in New York a month. Perhaps, before I leave, I will have found enough good plays to fill out our season."

Mr. Tallis has engaged Adams and Waters to play the Abe and Mavrus roles in "Business Before Pleasure" and to appear in "The High Cost of Living" in Australia.

#### PLUNKETT ISN'T DEAD.

Joe Plunkett, well-known in theatrical circles and at present identified with the Kieker Comedy Film concern, which makes Victor Moore pictures, wishes today a widely circulated report that he is dead. The rumor said Joe had killed himself.

"I don't know how the report got started," he said to us last night, "but it is absurd. Now, have a chair and I'll tell you how good these Victor Moore films are. Say, would you believe it, they are the biggest drawing card that ever—"

At that point we decided he wasn't dead and left.

**BOBBIE WRITES A LETTER.**

Robert Ansett, formerly a stage hand known as Bobbie Props, now in the hospital service in France, writes us to say that some of the boys over there fixed up a musical comedy called "The Camouflage" and made a big hit with it. Soldiers, some of them direct from the trenches, were made up as chorus girls and Bobbie writes they were great. Besides this, he declares the boys want real stage entertainers and real plays over there.

"Send us George M. Cohan," he writes. "We gotta have him. The United Booking Offices have no better time to offer than the Y. M. C. A. huts. Sherman was wrong. War is just what you make it."

**SHERRY EXTENDS SERVICE.**

William L. Sherry, who has formed a film distributing company known as the William L. Sherry Service, has arranged with the C. DeLoach to distribute all the Doris Kenyon pictures. These films are made by Miss Kenyon's own company, the De Luxe, of which Mr. DeLoach is the President. Mr. Sherry will distribute, also, all the Frank Keenan films.

**BY WAY OF DIVERSION.**

You never see 'em nowadays—the boys with home-cut hair. "Twelve different thirty years ago," we saw 'em everywhere. In those old days the barber shops were meant for just the men. To have a barber work on boys was hardly thought of then. You recollect how father used to sit you on a stool, an apron hangin' from your neck, ma's scissors as the tool? Remember how, upon your head, he placed the sugar bowl, while he rounded the edges, snip by snip, the scissors deftly stole? In thirty years, it seems to me, this world has changed a heap. To-day, if dad cut his hair, he'd get it cut by a barber. But could I go back in the years a stool I'd gladly take an' let dad use the bowl an' all just once for old times' sake.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

If they raise the fares in the tunnels under the Hudson it will be tube fare.

Naturally, the best sort of a cellar to seek when the submarines attack us is a sub-cellar.

The plane men, in session here recently, weren't especially anxious for, and yet the agents for mechanical players put on airs.

Benny Kauff, crack batter of the Giants, is going to France as a soldier. However, it is Billy Hoenes, a pitcher who is scheduled to make the home run.

#### GOSSIP.

William Sullivan, electrician at the Winter Garden, has joined the navy. Twelve hundred soldiers from Camp Upton will see "A Tailor-Made Man" at the Cohan & Harris Theatre tomorrow night.

Doris Kelly has been engaged by A. M. Woods for a role in "Business Before Pleasure" next season.

Gilbert Miller has cabled Selwyn & Company from London that his production of "The Naughty Wife" is a big hit.

**JUVENILES ARE SCARCE.**

Young men who can play juvenile roles and who are fit in time for immediate call for service in the army are in great demand now. The supply has been cut down at least 75 per cent. 222 salaries have advanced "considerably." Things have gotten so such a crisis that it is even reported Tom Wise has placed himself in the hands of a beauty specialist.

**A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.**

Out in Chicago there's a theatre ticket scalper by the name of Tommy Hews.

#### FOOLISHMENT.

Auto owners of a terrible blue color when they see a red car.

But what can you do?

**FROM THE CHESTNUT TREE.**

"I can't make this plough go."

"No wonder! It's a sulky plough."

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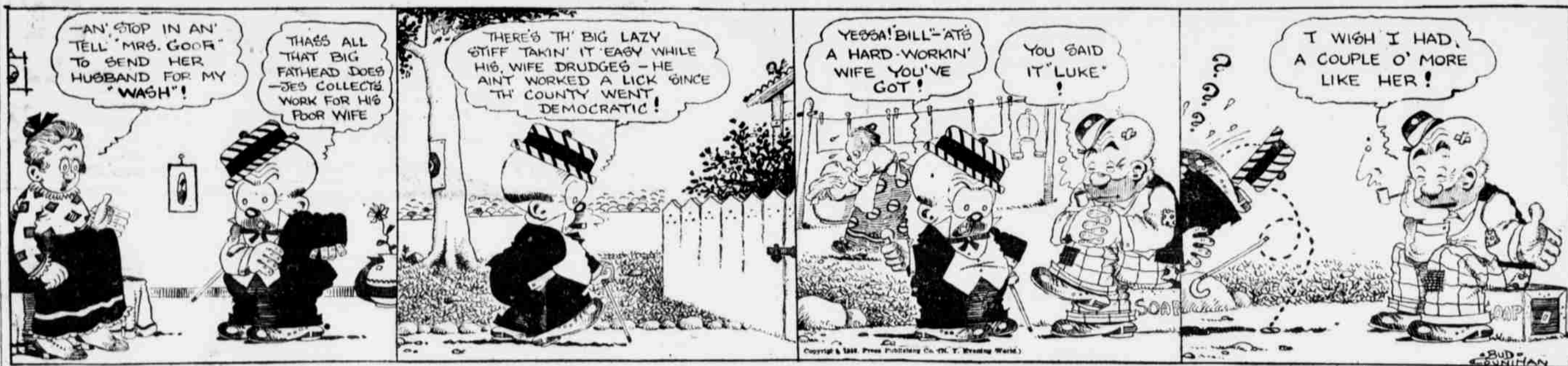
### LITTLE "MARY MIXUP"



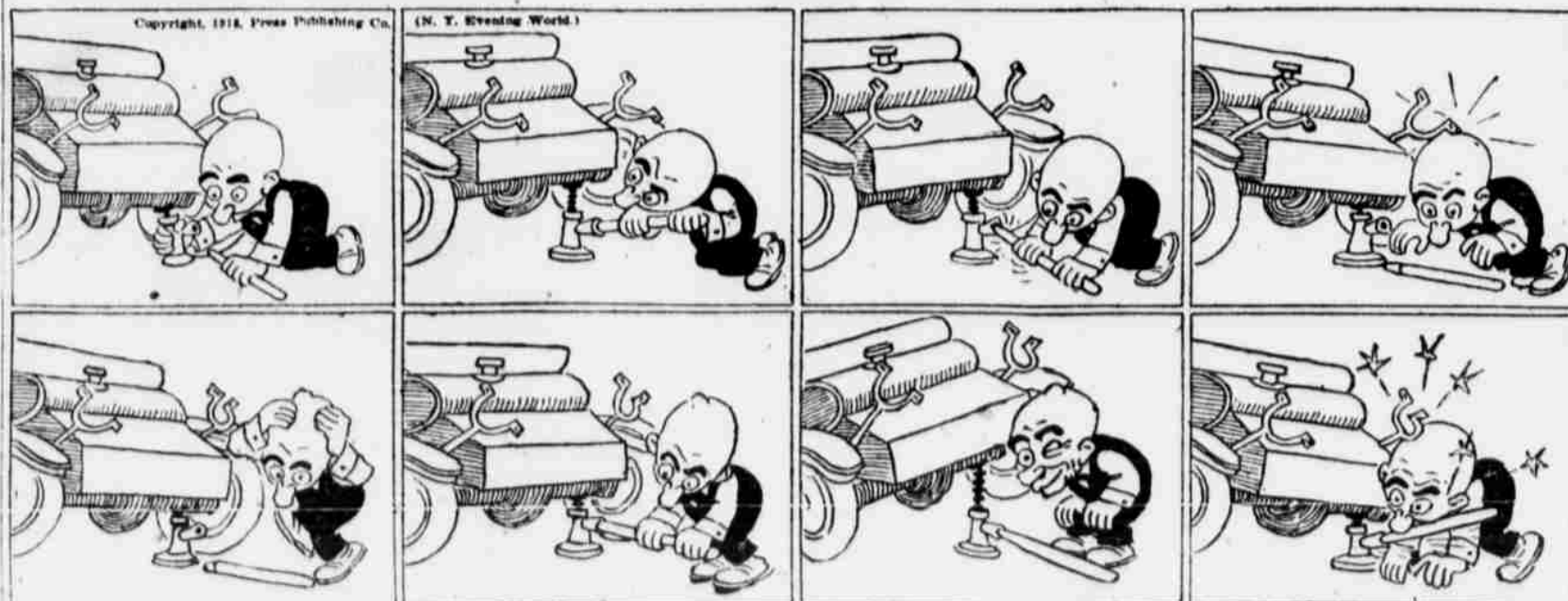
### JOE'S CAR



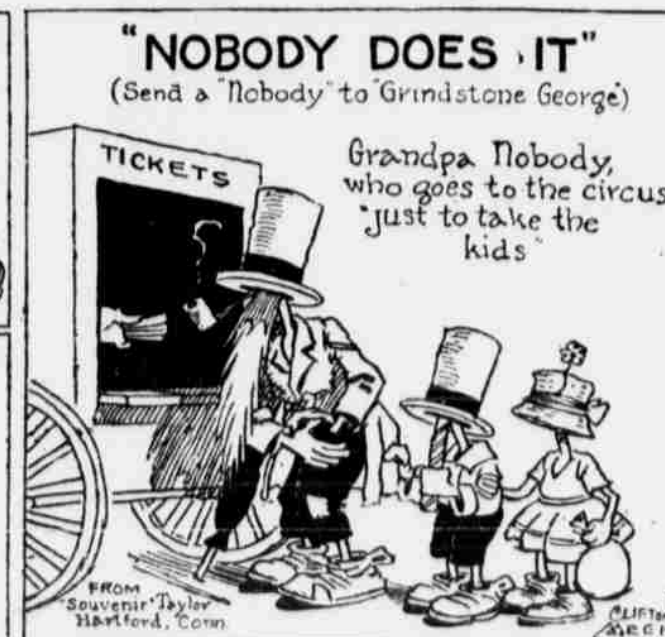
### THE BIG LITTLE FAMILY



### GRINDSTONE GEORGE



### It Acted Like the Jack of Clubs!



**THE UNWELCOME TRUTH.**

CAPT. F. L. FOOTE of the torpedoed schooner Margaret R. Rouse said on his return to New York:

"I live on a street called Kaiser Avenue and I'm going to have that name changed. The Kaiser is going to hear some plain truths about himself before this war of his is over. He's going to feel worse than the baldheaded chap."

"This chap sat in a fashionable coiffeur's shop with his little daughter while his wife was having a marcel wave put in her hair."

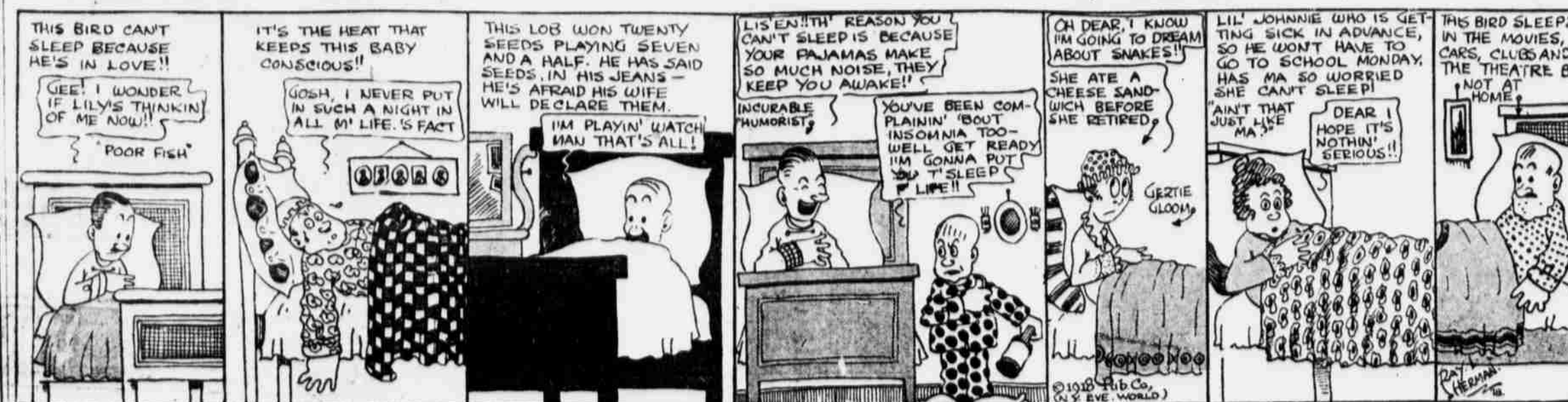
"The little daughter as she played about patted her father's bald head and said in a loud voice that all the ladies who were getting waved could hear."

"No waves for you, daddy—you're all beach!"—Detroit Free Press.

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